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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Schutt et al.
Appl. No. : 08/841,847
Filed : May 5, 1997
For : OSMOTICALLY STABILIZED
MICROBUBBLE
PREPARATIONS
Examiner : Hollinden, G.

Group Art Unit 1616

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on

June 20, 2000

(Date)

James J. Mullen III, Ph.D., Reg. No. 44,957

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the office action mailed on December 20, 1999, Applicants request the claims be amended as follows:

Please amend the following claims:

~~162.~~ (Thrice Amended) A microbubble preparation comprising [a] an aqueous medium having dispersed therein a plurality of osmotically stabilized microbubbles, said microbubbles comprising:

a generally spherical microbubble membrane containing [at least one gas osmotic agent and] at least one nonfluorocarbon modifier gas and at least one gas osmotic agent, wherein [said gas osmotic agent and] said modifier gas and said gas osmotic agent are present in a [fixed] molar ratio from about 1:100 to about 1,000:1, wherein said ratio is effective to stabilize said microbubble preparation, with the proviso that said modifier gas is not water vapor, and wherein said gas osmotic agent is selected from the group consisting of perfluoropentane, perfluorocyclopentane, perfluoromethylcyclopentane, perfluorodimethylcyclobutane, perfluorohexane, perfluorocyclohexane, perfluoroheptane, perfluorocycloheptane,